

## Today's Topics:

airport security  
AR on TV (2 msgs)  
change of address  
Contest log program? (2 msgs)  
Disk Drive Box  
Letter from the FCC: 20M Maritime Mobile Net  
Looking for amplifier  
Units of Measure (was flu

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Date: 6 Nov 89 16:39:36 GMT

From: shlump.nac.dec.com!koning.dec.com!koning@decuac.dec.com (Paul Koning)

Subject: airport security

Re the question of "does interference really occur": yes. A few years ago I operated air-mobile with a friend. He was flying the plane (a two-seater). This was VFR, but as usual the Nav radios were on. Whenever I hit the PTT, on my 1 watt 2 meter radio, the red flag on the VOR readout came up. No problem

in this case, but you can see why I won't operate air-mobile when IFR is in effect. (And I understand why there are rules about operating air-mobile while flying IFR in the FCC part 97 rules...)

People who operate cellular phones and the like on commercial flights should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. (Maybe it would help to charge them with attempted homicide!)

On the opposite point: I too wonder why aircraft gear is so poorly protected from EMI. Perhaps its because it tends to be old technology. Ask sometime how the transponder ("squawk") works, it will make your hair stand on end...

paul, n1ld

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Date: 6 Nov 89 16:40:21 GMT

From: mfci!rodman@CS.YALE.EDU (Paul Rodman)

Subject: AR on TV

Unexpected line heard on the Gary Shandling show on FOX network last night:

" You probably think an SB200 puts out 2 kw...."

Is Gary, or one of his writers, a ham?

pk1

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Date: 6 Nov 89 18:39:35 GMT  
From: enterprise!kirk@sun.com ('Captain' Kirk DeHaan)  
Subject: AR on TV

>From article <1106@m3.mfci.UUCP>, by rodman@mfci.UUCP (Paul Rodman):  
>  
> Unexpected line heard on the Gary Shandling show on FOX network  
> last night:  
>  
> " You probably think an SB200 puts out 2 kw...."  
>  
>  
> Is Gary, or one of his writers, a ham?  
>  
> pk1

My scan of the callbook database shows this...

Name: GARRY E. SHANDLING  
License: KD6OY License Class: A  
Mail address: 5 N SAN VICENTE LOS ANGELES CA  
Station address: 5 N SAN VICENTE LOS ANGELES CA

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\* 'Captain' Kirk DeHaan | "There's a lot to be said \*  
\* Sun Microsystems Inc. | For a blow to the head" \*  
\* | \*  
\* net - kirk@sun.com | Blue Oyster Cult \*  
\* packet - n6sxr.ampr.org | \*  
\* | \*  
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Date: Mon, 6 Nov 89 08:16:45 PST  
From: doug@NISD.CAM.UNISYS.COM (Doug Hardie)  
Subject: change of address

Please change my address to :

doug @ cam.unisys.com

Thanks,

-- Doug WA6VVV

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Date: 6 Nov 89 17:33:30 GMT  
From: dino!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Contest log program?

I would be interested in seeing or hearing about contest logging programs that are available as freeware or shareware, with sources.

And if you are trying to accuse me of avoiding PAYING for a "toll program", then.... I'm guilty :-)

--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--  
<phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

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Date: 6 Nov 89 19:17:29 GMT  
From: price@marlin.nosc.mil (James N. Price)  
Subject: Contest log program?

In article <30500273@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu> phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu writes:

>  
>I would be interested in seeing or hearing about contest logging programs  
>that are available as freeware or shareware, with sources.

So would I, especially one that's geared for Sweepstakes.

>  
>And if you are trying to accuse me of avoiding PAYING for a "toll program",  
>then.... I'm guilty :-)  
>  
>--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--

And I'd even be willing to PAY (heaven forbid) a nominal amount for a program if it's good (i.e. the non-DX equivalent to the K1EA program for CQWW, ARRL Test, etc).

--Jim, K6ZH

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Date: 6 Nov 89 19:09:30 GMT  
From: microsoft!clayj@uunet.uu.net (Clay Jackson)  
Subject: Disk Drive Box

I've got an "interesting" dilemma. I need to move a 5 1/4" floppy drive OUT of my system box and into an external unit. So, I need a box with a power supply and a set of adaptor cables of some sort. The controller I propose to use is an IRWIN 4100MC (as in MicroChannel). It has a 50 pin connector on the backplate, and their documentation claims that it will drive an external floppy.

The floppy is a 5 1/4" half height 1.2 Mb drive. The machine it's coming out of is a Tandy 5000MC, which is, for all intents and purposes (except some physical size problems) a PS/2 Model 80 clone.

Thanks!

Clay Jackson,  
Microsoft

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Date: 6 Nov 89 16:55:43 GMT  
From: microsoft!clayj@uunet.uu.net (Clay Jackson)  
Subject: Letter from the FCC: 20M Maritime Mobile Net

In article <1529@ultb.UUCP> cep4478@ultb.UUCP (C.E. Piggott) writes:

>

>I hope I am not making a mistake by posting it, but I think that it is  
>VERY important. It just came through packet, and I gated it to usenet  
>right away, so I'll hope that multiple copies don't appear; if they do,  
>I apologize, but, as I said, I think this is important:

>

Darn right it's important!!

Thanks for posting it.

>

>We fear that enhancement of international goodwill -- a  
>fundamental principle of the rules for the amateur service  
>in the United States -- is being jeopardized as a direct  
>result of this dispute. We are concerned, moreover, that  
>the experimental nature of the amateur service is being  
>suppressed. When a channel is used to carry on a never-  
>ending debate, it is denied for the purposes for which the  
>frequencies were allocated. Finally, requests to the  
>Commission to resolve the dispute are diverting far too much  
>staff time from other essential activities.

Pay attention to this, people. In simpler words (that EVERYONE

should be able to understand:

"If you guys can't (or won't) clean up your own messes, Uncle Sugar will step in and do it for you"

"If you bother US with enough of these messes, we'll take away your toys".

>Our approach has been to allow the amateur community to  
>resolve the issue in a spirit of cooperation, as it has for  
>many issues several times in the past. Because this  
>approach has not been effective in this instance, we are  
>looking to other alternatives. One alternative approach may  
>be rule making that could range in outcome to an outright  
>ban against all third party traffic to the designation of  
>specific channels in some segment of certain amateur bands  
>where only third party telephony communications could be  
>conducted. Before taking so drastic a step, however, we  
>want to gain a better understanding of the issues behind the  
>dispute.  
>

Well, I'm still just a wannabe (who may actually get there, this time), but since this (being able to work a friend of mine who spends a number of months/year at sea) is one of the reasons I'm getting to ham radio again, I feel like I can (and should) comment.

There are some interesting things we can learn from this; I've pointed out a couple above. I have no doubt that the FCC will (eventually) act, and that the majority of hams WILL NOT LIKE the action they eventually take. My view of the FCC is sorta like a sleeping bear who's letting letting you borrow a part of HIS cave. If you wake him up, he's likely to be grumpy, unless it was a for a good reason. If you woke him for a SILLY reason, or because you and the kid in the next cave couldn't settle a dispute about your toys, he's gonna be ANGRY and he'll probably take the toys away from BOTH of you, so NOBODY wins.

My opinions.....

Clay Jackson  
(Reaching for nomex longjohns)

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Date: 6 Nov 89 16:00:33 GMT  
From: cs.utexas.edu!samsung!brutus.cs.uiuc.edu!wuarchive!texbell!attctc!  
reddy@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Narotham Gaddam)  
Subject: Looking for amplifier

I bought a SONY ICF-7601 (12 bands) radio. I am trying to tune to All India Radio (they broadcast from Delhi). But I am getting the news and other programs but the signals are very weak and I can barely hear. Also I am using a very long indoor antenna which was provided by the radio. Without that antenna, the response is nill..

I would like to know is there any amplifier/antenna to get better signals.

Please e-mail me directly..

THanks

Narotham Reddy

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Date: 6 Nov 89 16:57:38 GMT  
From: shlump.nac.dec.com!koning.dec.com!koning@decuac.dec.com (Paul Koning)  
Subject: Units of Measure (was flu

Are units of measure arbitrary? In some sense, yes. There is no fundamental reason why feet are better, or worse, than meters. Nor are they better or worse than units derived from the fundamental constants.

Many people don't realize that the definition of units (and their standards) is a pragmatic activity. The reason why the standard for the meter, or the second, is what it is today has NOTHING to do with philosophy or considerations of fundamentalness. The only consideration is precision. The requirement on a standard definition is that it offers the best available compromise of accuracy, reproducibility, and availability. The standard kilogram isn't readily available, but its reproducibility is so much better than any alternative that it is still the choice. The standard for the meter has changed several times over the past decades to track the state of the art. When length measurement by interferometry became practical, the meter was defined in terms of wavelength. When it became possible to measure the frequency of visible light accurately, the meter was redefined in terms of the velocity of light (which is what defines it today).

The key difference that sets the (SI) metric system apart from all the others is that it defines a complete and consistent system of units. The earlier metric systems (CGS for example) come close.

The "US conventional" system isn't even in the running, which is why it is being generally abandoned in industry and was abandoned long ago for many scientific applications.

paul, ni1d

PS. To answer an earlier question:

peta (P) =  $10^{15}$

exa (E) =  $10^{18}$

also:

femto (f) =  $10^{-15}$

atto (a) =  $10^{-18}$

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End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #847

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